

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, over 700 Americans have given their lives for the war in Iraq, a conflict with no end in sight. That number does not take into consideration the report the Pentagon just released stating that over 18,000, 18,000 soldiers have been evacuated from Iraq for medical reasons, nor does it take into consideration the billions of dollars the United States has spent to date on this conflict or the international goodwill we are squandering.

We were told that this war was necessary to keep us safe. We were told last November that by sending another \$87 billion for military operations and reconstruction, on top of just a few months earlier \$78 billion for the same purposes, that Iraq would be in better shape and that our soldiers across the world would have the support that they need.

The fact is, even after Congress approved \$155 billion in supplemental spending bills, Iraq is not in better shape; and many of our troops in Iraq still lack the equipment that is essential for their survival: body armor capable of stopping bullets; armor for tanks that will help prevent the destruction of U.S. military convoys; and the necessary water equipment to keep them hydrated in the desert heat.

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Under the Bush administration, the annual Pentagon budget has grown from \$310 billion in fiscal year 2001 to \$420 billion in fiscal year 2005, an increase of 35 percent in just 4 years. At the same time the United States spends outrageous amounts of money on outdated weapon systems, America's contribution to U.N. peacekeeping missions has suffered a 6.5 percent cut, despite the fact that several critical peacekeeping missions will be launched in the coming year.

There has to be a better way, and there is, one that emphasizes brains instead of brawn, and one that is consistent with American values. I have introduced legislation to create a SMART security platform for the 21st century. SMART stands for sensible multilateral American response to terrorism.

We need to shift our budget priorities so that they reflect the true security needs of the American people instead of spending billions on new bunker-buster nuclear weapons and the President's beloved missile defense system, which would not provide an effective defense against a full frontal missile attack in the first place.

SMART security calls for stronger and smarter investments abroad in peacekeeping and conflict prevention programs and at home on homeland security and first responders. SMART security means creating a permanent postconflict unit that provides the first layer of reconstruction in countries that have been devastated by war and/or by oppressed dictators, like Iraq and Afghanistan. And SMART would mean

funding all Army peacekeeping units devoted to studying and preparing for future peacekeeping missions. SMART would develop a real strategy for energy independence because nothing threatens our national security more than our dependence on Middle Eastern oil.

The Bush doctrine has been tried, and it has failed. It is time for a new national security strategy. SMART security defends America by relying on the very best of America, our commitment to peace and freedom, our compassion for the people of the world, and our capacity for multilateral leadership.

SMART security is tough, pragmatic and patriotic. SMART security is smart, and it will keep America safe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURNS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NETHERCUTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. NETHERCUTT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL AND REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am here on the floor to talk about an extraordinary event that took place in our Nation's Capital today and what it signifies to me.

I attended the Holocaust Memorial and Remembrance Program that took place in the dome of the United States Capitol. I was struck by two different feelings as I sat there and I listened to one extraordinary remembrance and speech after another. The first was, of course, that feeling that always startles me; that man's inhumanity to man knows no bounds, and that a mere 60 years ago 6 million Jews were exterminated throughout the world. Their only transgression was the fact that they were Jewish.

I was also struck by the incredible fact that 60 years after this most heinous episode in our civilized world's history, that there we were, generation after generation after generation of survivors, those that survived, their children, their grandchildren, and their great-grandchildren, all gathered under the dome of the United States Capitol, the very seat of power, the most important and strongest Nation in the world. And here we have a seat at the table where we are welcomed, where we are valued as citizens, and where we have an opportunity to participate in our government as we have never been able to participate before. Here we gather not only to remember those that lost their lives in the Holocaust, but to ensure that something that happened 60 years ago could never ever happen again.

I am second-generation American. My grandparents walked across Europe to come to this country. My mother's side of the family comes from Salonika, Greece. Prior to World War II, prior to the Nazis, there were 80,000 Jews in Salonika. By the time the Nazis finished, there were merely 1,000 left. I am not presumptuous enough to think I would have been among the 1,000 selected to live.

On my father's side, the Russia-Poland side, there were no towns, no Jews. Hundreds and hundreds of years of a rich culture and civilization obliterated, exterminated in the course of the Second World War.

When my grandparents came to this country, they could not speak the language, they had no money, they had no skills, but they had a dream, and that dream was that their children and their children's children would lead a better life here in the United States than they had where they came from. My grandparents, who could not speak English, have a granddaughter who serves in the United States House of Representatives. It does not get better than that.

Last year, I had an opportunity to go back to Greece, back to Salonika to meet with the 1,000 Jews that survived and their children and grandchildren. I was there to help rededicate the Holocaust memorial, and I remember standing there in a beautiful plaza with Greek Orthodox and Jewish Greeks knowing that if my grandparents had not gotten out when they did, that memorial would have been to them, and I would not exist.

So for those who organized this extraordinary day of remembrance, to all those that spoke, to everybody that participated, and to all our fellow countrymen, let me give you a hearty and heartfelt thank you for giving me the opportunity I have to live in this incredible country, but also tasking me with a responsibility that future generations of our world citizens will never, never have to go through what this world went through 60 years ago.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SMITH of Washington addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)